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July 26, 2005

William Stevens, Hearing Officer
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
One South Station, 2nd Floor
Boston, MA 02110

Re: Double Utility Poles Report, D.T.E. 03-87

Dear Mr. Stevens:

I am writing on behalf of Boston Edison Company, Cambridge Electric Light Company, Commonwealth Electric Company, Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company, Massachusetts Electric Company, Nantucket Electric Company, Verizon Massachusetts and Western Massachusetts Electric Company (together, the "Companies") in response to your procedural memorandum of July 20, 2005. In that memorandum, you requested that the Companies designate a "lead counsel" by July 26, 2005 for purposes of coordinating the filing of any joint motions, submitting semi-annual reports, and communicating with the Department of Telecommunications and Energy (the "Department").¹

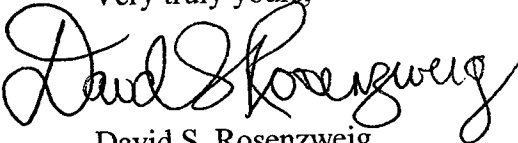
Rather than designating lead counsel on a formal basis, the Companies intend to continue their efforts to coordinate where possible, particularly on procedural matters, with the Department. The Companies anticipate filing a status report to the Department on August 2nd on a joint basis and, when a revised proposal is developed for the format and content of double-pole reports, the Companies expect to file a joint motion requesting a modification of the Hearing Officer's June 16th Procedural Ruling. With respect to the reporting of double pole information to the Department, the Companies have met and continue to meet regarding the substance of such semi-annual reports. These meetings have included discussions among the Companies and Inquest to ascertain the availability of data for reporting to the Department and to identify the system modifications that may be needed to maintain information in the PLM system on a pole-by-pole basis and by vintage. The Companies intend to provide the Department a more detailed update on their progress on or before August 2nd.

¹ You also requested that, on August 2nd, the Companies either file their semi-annual reports or provide a status report indicating when such reports would be filed (Hearing Officer Memorandum at 1 (July 20, 2005)).

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In the meantime, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or any of the other company representatives. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,



David S. Rosenzweig

cc: Mary Cottrell, Secretary
Andrew Kaplan, General Counsel
Barbara Anne Sousa, Esq.
Stephen Klionsky, Esq.
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